

Sustainability Leadership Council Planning Retreat Notes

19 October 2023 10 AM - 2PM PCC Sylvania, SS 103

Attendees

Jade Menchaca, Steph Fregosi, Briar Schoon, Jamie English, Roberta Richards, Heidi Sickert, Peter Ritson, Yaslim Hassan, Kendi Esary, Max Teschner, Evelyn Prater, John Carter, Kim Smith, Mak Porotesano, Moonrose Doherty, Gary Sutton, Cheryl Arpan, Carlo DeMarco, Michael Reis

Meeting Resources

- [Meeting Slideshow](#)
- [Climate Action Plan](#)

Agenda

Welcome Back

- Gathering together / network
- Introductions, pronouns & Ice Breaker
- Reorg update
 - Sustainability has moved out of FMS to Teaching and Learning under Academic Affairs, reporting to Executive Dean, Michael Reis
 - The Learning Gardens, Environmental Center and SPARC are officially under Sustainability umbrella
 - Climate Action Plan implementation, Sustainability Leadership Council and operational initiatives will continue
- Announcements
 - WOHSEC; have some extra tickets available so please let Briar know if you're interested in attending
 - Question on funding for students to attend WOHESC
 - Send interested students to Briar
 - SPARC would like to send faculty and can fund
 - Metro ballot initiative: Rock Creek Environmental Center
 - This project would improve trail accessibility, provide space for gathering and art, and establish first food gardens at the PCC Rock Creek campus.
 - Please vote by November 7th -
<https://pbstanford.org/oregonmetro2023-finalvote>
 - Ecochallenge ends Oct 31st, currently PCC is ranked 3rd globally

Procedure Review

- Meeting agreements
 - No modifications made
- Fist to Five Voting & identity cards
- Reminder of CAP Equity resources & expectations

BREAK / Raffle

DEIJA Training

- Land Acknowledgement discussion
 - How can we do more? (Save for a later meeting)
- Focus on climate anxiety and equity
- [How to Turn Climate Anxiety Into Action](#) - Breakdown" [9:04]
- Breakout Discussion
 - It's hard to convince people when it's not immediately "at our front door" in the global north
 - Climate anxiety is also a privilege and many frontline folks such as island communities are already active out of necessity
 - Look at other movements that were perceived as hopeless and still organized successfully (ie civil rights movement)
 - Gen Z gives us hope because they are very active in this work
 - A field Guide to Climate Anxiety book club is a good PCC resource ([more info](#))

History/Recent Accomplishments

- Sustainability Timeline & [2023 One Page Sustainability Update](#)
- Outreach & Education
 - Focus areas:
 - Curriculum
 - Outreach and Engagement
 - Community Connections
 - Initiatives:
 - SPARC + Sustainability Teaching Guide
 - Conferences
 - Basic Needs, Sustainability & Student Leadership
 - Climate change library guides
 - SSHub, Environmental Center and Learning Gardens
 - Climate Anxiety workshops
 - Curriculum development
 - Sustainability Dashboard
 - Green Building Education
- Scope 1 & 2
 - On track to be carbon neutral by 2027
 - Focus Areas

- Energy Reduction
 - Renewable Energy
 - Fleet Emissions Reduction
 - Recent accomplishments
 - Strategic Energy Management
 - Building decarbonization
 - Energy efficient scheduling
 - Electric vehicle transition
 - Electrifying landscaping equipment
 - Two PV Installations, one at HT, one at OC42nd
 - Jackson Hall proposal
- Scope 3
 - Focus areas
 - Sustainable Transportation and Travel
 - Procurement
 - Water Reduction
 - Waste Diversion
 - Recent accomplishments
 - Sustainable Purchasing Guidelines [Website](#), waiting for Procurement Dept to finalize the college's new purchasing policy
 - Reducing irrigation and upgrading indoor fixtures
 - Compost in every kitchen and reusables at In-service and Week of Welcome
 - Active transportation education at tabling events / determining incentive program
- Resiliency
 - Recent accomplishments
 - Ongoing assessment work
 - Development of resiliency goals and strategies
 - Tree Campus Certification 2023
 - Bee Campus Certification 2023
 - Stormwater detention at HT
 - Additional college lands going for low-income housing
 - Research into opportunities to improve energy resiliency

LUNCH BREAK + group photo



Draft SLC Charter Review - 2023 Draft PCC SLC Charter

Presentation & Overview

- Mission
 - The Sustainability Leadership Council (SLC) works in partnership across Portland Community College and within the community to steer and implement PCC's Climate Action Plan and uphold the college's commitment to sustainability. At PCC, Climate Action takes a holistic approach, using adaptation and mitigation to support racial equity and social justice to create a thriving campus community.

SLC's work involves creating culturally informed, culturally responsive and equity student-centered curricular and co-curricular offerings. SLC supports a just transition through green workforce development and models innovative pathways towards carbon neutral operations to build a resilient and thriving campus community.

- Vision
 - We envision the Sustainability Leadership Council (SLC) as a district-wide, cross-functional, consensus driven and innovative council of stakeholders that coordinates the implementation of the Climate Action Plan and other sustainability efforts across operations, student engagement and education.

PCC's sustainability and climate action work are part of the college's integrated planning efforts in support of the college's mission to support student success by delivering access to quality education while advancing economic development and promoting sustainability in a collaborative culture of diversity, equity and inclusion.

- Values

- 1. Hope is the best path forward for a sustainable future. We will inspire our students, faculty by taking innovative action on meeting our sustainability and climate action goals and share our successes with our community.
- 2. Planning for the future is critical for student success. We will work to prepare our grounds, facilities and operations for a changing climate in the knowledge that student, faculty and staff success depends upon a safe and healthy environment for learning and personal growth.
- 3. Education is a civil right. We will apply integrative learning strategies to empower our students, faculty and staff to adapt to and thrive in a changing environment. PCC thrives as a learning community when it draws its strength from the many talents and experiences of those who come here to learn, to teach, to work.
- 4. Everything is connected. We will use our campuses' as living laboratories where students and the community can explore climate and sustainability solutions by supporting faculty use of community based-learning with real-world examples, while providing hands-on learning opportunities that also offer space for self-reflection and research.
- 5. Success requires equity. We will actively use social justice and equity frameworks to center those impacted most in creating climate and sustainability solutions. We value all knowledge, indigenous wisdom and lived experience.
- 6. Our responsibility to our community goes beyond the college's doors. We will root climate action in our home in the Pacific Northwest of the United States, while ensuring that we reduce our global footprint.
- 7. We can go further together. We will work collaboratively with our neighbors and other stakeholders to support leadership development in sustainability and a green workforce. We use self-reflection, transparency and community engagement to help us grow and remain accountable to the PCC community.
- 8. A just transition is imperative. We will address historical injustices with restorative, place-based sustainability efforts that uplift and empower our diverse community. We seek to engage and learn from our community stakeholders in our efforts to deliver positive benefits from our sustainability efforts that are healing and restorative.

- Structure & By Laws

- Advocate for cabinet level sponsor
- Chairs are sustainability office driven
- Membership responsibilities
- Open membership
- Consensus based governance model, with understanding of shared governance
- No more "ad hoc members"

- DEIJA Highlights
 - We intentionally wove DEIJA language into the mission, vision and values, we made it an active part of member responsibilities, we continue to use equity tools throughout this councils' processes like the fist of five voting and identity cards, we aim for transparency along with many other intentional processes. This was an active and continuous conversation throughout the task force's work this summer.
 - We're also drafting a separate statement that reflects SLC's commitment to Diversity Equity inclusion justice and accessibility work. This statement will share some of the past DEIJA work that's been done in SLC to date and offers a few ideas about what we might do moving forward. We pulled language from other similar statements created by the college, what's in PCC's mission statement as well as language that other institutions use. This will also be something that we will share with the group once the first draft is completed. We're hoping to gather feedback and input from you all soon.

Initial Reactions & Feedback

- We will be diving into the charter and deija statement in more detail at a future meeting and the draft document was sent out with the meeting agenda for those that want to looks at it in their own time. We have about 15 minutes set aside now to hear some initial thoughts and feedback if anyone would like to share
- Appreciation for the process and intentionality was shared

Breakout Groups

- Outreach & Education
 - Priorities for 2023-24: Curriculum, Promotion & Events/Programming
 - Improve (internal to PCC staff, faculty and students) communication channels and outreach among all initiatives
 - Point People: Briar, Kendi, Peter (SAC groups, SLC, Hub, and more)
 - Curricula/Co-Curricula:
 - Roberta wants to see PCC participate in Global Climate class- ("Make Climate A Class - Bard") Offered 1st week of Spring. Call for Faculty to participate in teach-in and/or offer presentations, etc.
 - Learning Gardens: Link Gardens with Climate Anxiety efforts and workshops and consider as a host-site
 - Raise \$ for food and staff for Panther Pantries that distribute food to students and send out Panther Packs over the breaks
 - SPARC:
 - Publicize and support faculty and student attendance at conferences - WOHESC in March 2024
 - Work on design/launch of Sustainability Resources Website and Library Guide

- Set and hold regular meetings and revisit how to publicize/share examples of ways to integrate pre-approved 7 sustainability focused Learning Outcomes
 - Hold a Spring “Training” and Sustainability Sessions that directly coordinate with Earth Month Activities (+ look into Sarah Tillery workshop option shared by Kim S.)
- Scope 1 & 2
 - Fleet Electrification
 - Need infrastructure in place by next year
 - More charging stations on each campus
 - Time limit/accountability measures for stations
 - Effective space utilization
 - Plenty of unused lots and spaces where charging stations could be installed
 - Help from ETO and/or PGE incentive programs
 - Must be battery storage facilities in order to receive ETO incentives
 - Add renewable energy sources to each campus
 - Leverage help from ETO
 - Lighting upgrades district-wide
 - Most of the lighting sources are still fluorescent and highly inefficient
 - Easy, comparatively inexpensive way to save energy
 - Can be partially subsidized by ETO and/or PGE
 - Investments in sensors and/or controls could save hundreds of thousands of dollars every year
 - Lots of unoccupied rooms with no automatic shut-off or any kind of efficiency controls
- Scope 3
 - Focused on Sustainable Transit and Travel
 - Idea brainstorm:
 - Transit subsidy program comparable to Trimet’s
 - Currently, \$300 term pass or \$150 w/ program
 - Trimet program reduces each fare by half rather than paying for a full term up front
 - Action item: see what PSU does and their funding structure
 - Lobby for BikeTown bikes at Sylvania campus
 - Free with SNAP, FAFSA, other assistant programs
 - Transportation Advisory Committee
 - John to send meeting details, open to PCC community
 - Metro Incentive Program
 - Give funding for transit tracking systems and other initiatives
 - John to meet with program coordinator
 - Raise awareness of shuttle
 - GetThere Oregon, tracks public transit use → could use for #'s

- Preferred parking for carpooling? Look at what other schools are doing
 - Special shuttle event - Gift cards under seat
 - Start thinking through, meet together and make a graphic
 - Aim to host event before term ends
- Resiliency
 - Evelyn, Yaslim, Steph and consultations of Moonrose Jaimie and Mak
 - Agreed to meet in mid November. Please let me know if Thursdays generally work for you. I'm thinking of November 9th around 11am.
 - We've tabled gathering feedback from FMS and instead would prefer to bring them a list of metrics we'd like to use or projects to move forward with instead. There has been a fair amount of input historically from learning gardens around spraying near the learning gardens and poor signage for IPM. (It might be nice to explore Salmon Safe again for Rock Creek and Sylvania in the future.)
 - Some proposed metrics evolved out of feedback - e.g. pervious surface area vs. stormwater detention pond capacity and a running total type list of IPM spraying list (to increase transparency for IPM)
 - We discussed gathering natural feedback from the natural resources stakeholders this year. Questions were developed last year and were designed to help control the overwhelm that the [survey](#) seems to generate. I've pasted it here for our review for next time.
 - We talked about gathering similar feedback from students.
 - The agenda for next time will be to further plan out our natural resources feedback session.

Share Out / Report Back

Closing